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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Branch

In re Patent Application of

Applicant : Pierre PICCALUGA

International Appln. No. : PCT/FR98/01437

Attorney Dkt. No. 32143-156903

Filed : Concurrently herewith

For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FORMATTING A DIGITAL AUDIO SIGNAL
TO BE USED FOR SOUND REPRODUCTION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 as follows:

Claim 2, line 1, change "characterised by" to --wherein--.

Claim 3, line 1, change "(1) or (2)" to --1--.

Claim 5, line 1, change "(4)" to --4--; and change "characterised in that" to
--wherein--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "claims (4) or (5)" to --claim 4--; and change "characterised
by" to --wherein--.